



IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Patent Application of :

Avto TAVKHELIDZE, Jonathan Sidney EDELSON )

Serial No. 09/481,803 )

Filed: August 31, 1998 )

Title: Thermionic Vacuum Diode Devices )  
With Positioned Electrodes )

Examiner Karl IE Tamai

Group Art Unit 2834

#18/B (AIE)  
Hawkins  
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Express Mailed: December 21, 2001

Examiner Karl IE Tamai  
Group Art Unit 2834  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action mailed November 7, 2001, Applicant requests that the above-captioned patent application be amended as follows:

✓ IN THE SPECIFICATION

✓ Please amend the title from "Thermionic Vacuum Diode Devices with Positioned Electrodes" to —Thermionic Vacuum Diode Device with Adjustable Electrodes—.

On page 19 line 4 of the substitute document, after "When the gap distance between the electrodes is in the order of tens of angstroms, thermal conduction through a gas is considerably lessened." Insert ~~/~~ In a preferred embodiment, the gap distance is less than 200 angstroms. In a particularly preferred embodiment, the gap distance is 100 angstroms or less.—

IN THE CLAIMS

✓ Please delete claims 5, 11, 12, 18, 21 and 22 without prejudice. Please amend claims 1, 4, 7-10, 13-17, 23, 26, 27, 31-33, 35 and 36 so that they read as follows: